

ARTICLES
To be enquired of by
the Church-wardens and Sworne-
men, *within the Diocesse of Winchester*
in the Visitation of the reuerend Fa-
ther in God, Thomas Bishop of Winton, in
his Triennall Visitation, holden
1603.

In the first yeere of the raigne of our most gracious
Soueraigne Lord, *James* by the grace of God
King of England, Scotland, France, and Ire-
land, defender of the Faith, &c.

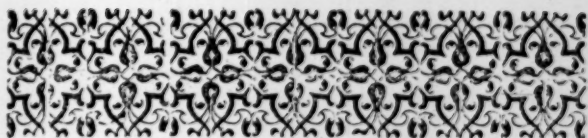


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*He Church-wardens and their
assistsants are straightly requi-
red to read or heare all these
Articles read ouer vnto them,
and diligently to consider and enquire
thereof, betweene the time of the deliuery
hereof vnto them, and the making of their
presentments.*





Articles to bee enquired of, by the Church-wardens and Sworne-men, within the Diocesse of *Winchester*, and the trueth thereof to be by them, vpon their oathes, certainly presented to the Bishop or his Deputie, with perticular answer to euerie Article.

Articles concerning the Cleargie.



Whether your common prayer be read by your Minister in your Churches or Chappels plainly and reverently vpon all Sundayes and Helydaies, and other daies prescribed, in such order as is set forth in the Booke of common praier, authozized by the Lawes of this Realme, without any innouation, or change of any part thereof at due and conuenient houres: And whether the holy Sacraments be likewise ministred reuerently in such manner, as by the Booke of common praier is appointed.

2 Item, whether any person, not being ordered, at the least a Deacon, hath attempted to say common praier openly in your Church or Chappell, or to solemnize matrimonic, or administer the Sacrament of Baptisme.

3 Item, whether the Church-wardens haue permitted or do suffer any Curat or Minister to serue your Church before he be admitted and examined by the Ordinarie in writing, and doe shew his licence vnder scale vnto the Church-wardens: and whether any Curate doe serue two Cures in one day.

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4 Item, whether your Minister not being a Preacher, doe euerie Sunday when there is no Sermon, read distinctly and plainely, some part of the Homilies prescribed and set forth by the Quēns authoritie to be read: and whether any Minister, not admitted by the Ordinarie, or by other lawfull authoritie, doe expound any scripture or manner of doctrine, and thereby omit and leaue off the reading of Homilies: or whether any in your Parish doe depraue or speake against the Homilies, and the vse of them in the Church?

5 Item, whether your Minister doe at the administration of the Lords Supper, reuerently kneele when himselfe receiue it, according to the Booke of common praier: and whether the communicants themselves in like sort doe reuerently kneele vpon their knees at the time of the receiuing thereof: or whether he doe administer it confusedly, to some kneeling, to some sitting, and to some standing.

6 Item, whether your preacher, in his praier made in his Sermon, whether it be at the beginning, middle, or end thereof, doe vse or omit at any time the praier for his Maestie, with his whole title giuen him as King of England, Scotland, Fraunce, and Ireland, defender of the faith, &c. of all causes, and ouer all persons within his Maesties Domini- on, as well ecclesiasticall as temporall, next and immediatly vnder God supreme Governour: and for our most gracious Quēne, the Prince of Wales their eldest Sonne, and all their royall Progenie.

7 Item, whether any Lectures. Cenuenticles, or priuate meetings, be read or vsed within your Parishes, either publique in the Church, or priuately in any house, by any not licenced thereto by the Ordinarie: or whether any such Reader do teach any doctrine of innouation, to withdraw people from due obedience to the ordinances of the Church, set forth by publique authoritie, or to cause them to forbear participating in prayer and sacraments with our Church?

8 Item,

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8 Item, how many sermons hath your Parson or Vicar preached in his owne Church within this yere past. And if your Parson or Vicar be not a preacher, how many sermons hath he procured to be preached there in this yere past: and who hath preached them, and whether were they that did preach them, licensed or no: and by whom?

9 Item, whether your Minister hath received to the holy communion, any persons which be not of his owne Parish, without testimony from the minister of the place where they dwell what they be, that it may appeare they be not persons excommunicate, or otherwise notorious offenders?

10 Item, whether your Minister doe euerie Sunday or holiday, openly in the Church, call for, heare, and instruct all the children, apprentices and seruants that be of convenient age within your Parish, or at the least, so many of them (by course) as the time will serue, and as he may well heare and instruct for one halfe houre, (at the least) before or after Evening prayer; in the ten commandements, the articles of the beliefe, the Lords prayer, and the sacraments, and diligently examine and teach them the Catechisme, as it is now allowed, and set forth in the Booke of common prayer: and whether (to that purpose) he hath taken the names of them all, and by course call certaine of them (by name) euery Sunday and Holiday to come to the teaching of this Catechisme: and if the Parents & Master be slacke in sending them, whether he hath called vpon the churchwardens to present them?

11 Item, whether your Parson, Vicar, or Curate, or other Minister in your Church or Chappell, hath admitted to the holy communion any publicke excommunicate person, or any open or notorious fornicator, adulterer, or euill liuer, by whom publicke offence is giuen, without due penance first done, to the satisfaction of the congregation, enioyned him by his Ordinarie.

12 Item, whether your Preachers or Ministers be peace-makers,

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makers, and exhort their Parishioners to obedience towards their Prince, and all other that be in authoritie, and to the gouernement ecclesiasticall now established, and to charitie and mutuall loue among themselves: whether they be diligent in visiting the sicke, and comforting them?

13 Item, whether any person hath preached, declared, or spoken any thing in derogation of the Book of comon prayer, which is set forth by the Lawes of this Realme, dispraising or deprauiing the same, or any thing therein contained; or against the Preachers or Ministers of the word and sacraments?

14 Item, whether there be provided in your Parish one conuenient parchment Booke: And whether therein are written the names of all persons, which haue bene christened, married, or buried in that Parish since the beginning of the raigne of our late most gracious Soueraigne Ladie Quene Elizabeth? And whether euerie page of that Booke being filled with the inscription of those names be subscribed by the Minister and Church-wardens? And whether euerie Sunday after morning or euening prayer, the Minister in the presence of the Churchwardens, doe write into that parchment booke, the names of all persons that haue ben christened, married, or buried in the Parish the wake before? And immediately after the writing of all the saide names, whether the Minister hath openly and distinctly read in the Church all the said names of that precedent wake, and the day and moneth of the christening, marriage, or buriall of euerie such person. And whether there bee provided in the Church a conuenient coffer with three locks and keyes, for the sure keeping of that Register parchment booke? And whether the Minister and both the Church-wardens, hauing euerie of them one of the sayd keyes in their custodie, doe safely keepe the said Register Booke in the sayd coffer, according as hath been by the Canon3 of this Church of England provided.

15 Item,

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15 Item, whether your Ministers doe keepe any man or woman in their houses, suspected to be incontinent persons, or bee themselves given to drunkennesse, haunters of Tavernes, ale-houses, or suspected places, or otherwise suspected of any notozious crime, or light disordered behaviour, or haue given any euill example of life, or vse vnseemely apparell in colours, guards, or light fashions.

16 Item, whether for the retaining of the perambulation of the circuit of your Parish, the Minister, Churchwardens, and certain substantiall men of the Parish, in the daies of the Rogations (commonly called Gang-daies) walke the accustomed bounds of your parish: whether in the same they vse any superstitious or popish ceremonie, but onely meditate of Gods mercie, giue him thanks for blessing of the earth, as is by the law of the Church set downe.

17 Item, whether there be any in your Parish that readeth any priuate lectures, or vseth expositions of the Scriptures in any priuate mans house whatsoeuer, contrarie to law: and whether any preach, and doe not at certaine times in the yere minister the Sacraments in their owne persons, and in such Church where he readeth his Lecture.

18 Item, whether any Parson, Vicar, or Minister hath procured himselfe to bee admitted into sacred orders by any corrupt meanes of money, reward, guift, or promise of reward, or by any symoniacall compact hath procured his benefice, directly or indirectly, or be thereof by common fame suspected or defamed.

19 Item, whether your Minister doe reiect those women (being married) which do come to the Church to giue thanks after child birth, according to the order set down in the booke of common prayer.

20 Item. whether your Minister haue married any person, not being thre severall sundays lawfully asked in their Parish

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Parish churches, according to the booke of common prayer, or not being sufficiently licensed thereunto, by license from the L. Bishop of Winchester his officers.

21 Item, whether your Parsons and Vicars doe main-
taine and keep in due reparations, their mansion houses and
other edifices belonging to their ecclesiasticall livings, and
not suffer them to fall into ruine and decay: and whether
your almshouses, hospitals, and spittles, be well and godly
used, according to the foundation and auncient ordinances
of the same: and whether there be any other placed in them
than poore, impotent, and needie persons, that haue not
wherewith, or whereby to liue?

Articles concerning the Churchwardens and their assistants.

I Item, whether you haue in your Parish Churches and
Chappels, all things necessarie and requisite for common
prayer and administration of the Sacraments: specially the
booke of common prayer with the new Kalender, two Psal-
ters, the English Bible in the largest volume, the Table of
the ten commaundements, a conuenient Pulpit well placed,
a comely and decent Table standing on a frame, for the ho-
ly communion, with a faire linnen cloath to lay vpon the
same, and some couering of silke, buckram, or other such like,
for the cleane keeping thereof, a faire and comely communi-
on cup of silver, and a couer of silver for the same, which may
serue also for the ministracion of the communion bread, and
a decent large surplesse with sleeves.

2 Item, whether your Churches, and Chappels, with the
chancell, be well and sufficiently repaired and kept, without
abuse of any thing: and whether your churchyards be well
fenced and cleanly kept: and if any part thereof be in decay,
through whose default it is so, and whether any strife hath
growne amongst your neighbours, about pewes or seats in
the Church?

3 Item,

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3 Item, whether those decayes of your Chauncels and Churches which were lately vpon speciall inquisition presented: haue been and are sufficiently repaired sithence that time according to former commandement given to that purpose, or how much thereof doe yet remaine vndecent, ruinous, or in any decay, and to what value, & by whose fault:

4 Item, whether your Font or Baptisteries be removed from the place where they were wont to stand: or whether any persons (leauing the vse of them) doe christen or baptize in basons, or other prophane vessels, not accustomedly vsed in the Church before time.

5 Item, whether the Scholemasters within your Parish, openly or priuately in any mans house, be of good and sincere religion, life and conuersation, and be diligent in teaching and bringing vp of youth, and whether with their Schollers they do resort orderly on Sundaies and Holidaies to church: and whether your Scholemasters doe receiue the holy communion so oft as they ought to do, and so many of their schollers as be of sufficient age and capacitie to receiue: and whether they haue ben examined, allowed, and licensed for schoolmasters by the Ordinarie or his officers in that behalfe?

6 Item, whether all Housholders in your Parish haue caused their children, seruants, and apprentices, both mankind and womankind, (being aboue seauen yeres of age) which haue not learned the Catechisme, to come to the church on Sundaies and Holydaies at the times appointed for catechizing, and there diligently and obediently to heare: and what be the names of those that haue not caused their children, seruants, and apprentices, so to come to the Church to be instructed and examined?

7 Item, whether doe any worke or keepe any shop, or any part of their shop open vpon the Saboath daies, or vpon any Holydaies, (appointed by the lawes of the Realme to be kept holi-

holypday, or doe vse any worke or labour vpon those daies.

8 Item, whether you your selues, or the Churchwardens in the yeeres befoze, haue suffered any vnmarried woman (being begotten with childe) to go out of the Parish befoze she hath done penance: or any man defamed of whozedom, to depart vnpunished: and sozth of whose houses they haue gone away with vnpunished.

9 Item, whether there be any in your Parish, which for any cause whatsoeuer, wilfully sozbeare to come to Church, to publique praier, or to heare Gods word preached, pretending it vnlawfull to come to our assemblies, as the church of England now standeth: and how many moneths they and euerie of them haue so absented themselves by the space of one yeare last past.

10 Item, whether any doe refuse to receiue the holy communion at their owne Ministers hand, either because he is not a preacher, or because he duely obserueth y^e order of ministration, appointed by the booke, and who they be that doe go from their owne Parish to receiue at any other Ministers hands: and whether any of your Parishioners (hauing a preacher to their Minister) doe absent themselves from his sermons, and resort to other places to heare other Preachers:

11 Item, whether the people of your Parish (especially householders, hauing not lawfull excuse to be absent) doe diligently themselves resort with their children and seruants, to the Parish Church or Chappell on holydaies, and chafely on the sundaies, to Morning and Euening prayer, or vpon reasonable let thereof, to some vsuall place where common praier is vsed, and then and there abide orderly and soberly during the time of common praier, Homilies, Sermons, and other service of God there vsed, reuerently and deuoutly giuing themselves to the hearing therof, and who they be that negligently absent themselves, or come verie late to the Church, or vse any gaming or pastime abroad, or in any house

house, or sit in the street, Churchyard, or in any fauerne or alehouse vpon the Saboth or holiday, in the time of common prayer, Sermon, or reading of Homilies, either befoze or after none?

12 Item, whether there be within your Parish any Inkeepers, ale-wiues, victuallers or tiplers, that suffer or doe admit any person or persons in their houses to eate, drinke, or play at cards, tables, or such like games in the time of common prayer or Sermon on the Sundaes or Holydaies: and whether any Butcher, or others that commonly vse to sell meat or other things, doe make sale in the time of common prayer, preaching or reading of Homilies: and whether in any faires or common Markets (falling vpon the Sunday) there be any shewing of any wares befoze Morning prayer be done: and whether any Markets and selling of wares be vsed or suffered in any churchyards, by common packemen or pedlers going about, or any such people either of your parish, or not?

13 Item, whether the Church-wardens of the last yeere haue giuen to the Parish a iust account of the Church goods and rents that were committed to their charge, according to the custome that hath ben alsoe time vsed: and what Church goods they or any other haue sould, and to whom: and whether to the profit of your Church, or no: and what hath ben done with the monney thereof comming?

14 Item, whether any of your parish (being of conuenient age) haue not receiued the holy communion thrice in euery yeere at the least, and namely at Easter, or thereabouts for once: and what their names are, or which (at their receiuing) haue not signified the same befoze to your Parson, Vicar, or Curate, that he might conueniently examine them: and who haue refused to come to him to be examined?

15 Item, whether there be any in your Parish, that administer the goods of those that be dead without lawfull authority,

thozitie, or any that suppress the last will of the dead, or any Executors that haue not fulfilled their Testators Will, especially in paying of Legacies giuen to the Church, or to other good and godly vses, as to the reliefe of povertie, to helpelesse Orphanes, poore Schollers, poore Gardens marriages, high waies, and such like : and by whom they are so detained :

16 Item, whether there be any in your parish that hath or doth offend contrarie to the Statute made in the 37. yere of the Raigne of King Henrie the eight for the reformation of Usurie, and reuiued by an Act made the thirteenth yere of the raigne of the late Quene Elizabeth, taking aboue the rate of ten pounds for the lending of an hundred pounds by the yere : and what be the names of such offendours ?

17 Item, whether your Minister, or any of the Parish, without the consent of the Ordinarie, haue caused any to do penance or bee punished, either openly or other wise, for any crime punishable by the Ecclesiasticall lawes onely, and what be the names of the parties that haue been so punished, and in what manner ?

18 Item, whether there bee amongst you any that vse sorcery or witchcraft, punishable by the Ecclesiasticall lawes, or that bee suspected of the same, and whether any vse any charmes, or vnlawfull prayers : and whether any doe resort to any such for helpe and counsaile, and what bee the names both of such as vse it, and of such as resort vnto them for help :

19 Item, whether there bee among you, any blasphemers of the name of God, great or often swearers, adulterers, fornicators, incestuous persons, bawdes or receiuers of incontinent persons, or harbourers of women with child which be vnmarrried, conueying or suffering them to goe a way before they doe any penance, or make satisfaction to the congregation, or any that be vehemently suspected of any such fault : any drunkards, or ribawdes, or any that be malicious, contentious, or vcharitable persons, common slaunderers of their neigh-

neighbours, raylers, scolders, or solvers of discords betwixen neighbours, and especially raylers against Ministers, and against their marriage.

20 Item, whether there bee any in these parts that haue married within the degrees of affinity or consanguinitie, by the lawes of God forbidden, or any, that being diuorced or separated for the same, do yet notwithstanding cohabite and keepe company still together, or any that being married without those degrees, haue unlawfully forsaken their wiues or husbands and married others, any man that hath two wiues, or woman that hath two husbands, any that being diuorced or separated asunder haue married againe, any that haue married and contracted themselves without the consent of their parents, tutors, and gentlemen, any that haue married without banns thrice solemnly asked, any couples married that liue not together, but slanderously liue apart.

21 Item, whether your Minister and Churchwardens haue suffered any lord of misrule or summer Lords or ladies, or any disguised persons, or May-games, or morrice dancers, at any time to come vntreuerently into the church or churchyard, and there to daunce or play, in the time of common Prayer, Seruice, or Sermon vpon the Saboath day?

22 Item, whether any within your Parishes doe resort into barnes, fields, woods, or private houses for any extraordinary expositions of scriptures, or conferences together, and so doe (as it were) make a severall Church or sect vnto themselves, or be drawers, or perswaders of others to any such schismaticall sect, and in whose houses, or in what places haue you heard of any such meetings.

23 Item, whether there be any of your parish known or suspected to conceale or keep hidde in their house, any Masse books or other books of Popery & superstition, or any chalices, copes, vestiments, or other like superstitious ornaments in their forme and fashion undefaced, for some exercise of their

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superstition, as may be suspected, if they may haue time or opportunitie thereto: or whether any be known or suspected to receiue any such booke or like trumperie from beyond the seas, and to disperse and carrie them abzoab to others.

24 Item, whether any in your parish, married in any priuat houses since the last visitation, haue bin knowne or suspected to haue bin married by any popish priest, or in any other order then is appointed by the church of England.

25 Item, whether any childezen borne within your parish do remaine unbaptized, or be suspected to be baptized by any popish priest, Seminarie, or Jesuite: or whether any Recusants liue together as man and wife, who are not known to be married according to the lawes of this Realme.

26 Item, whether you know any noxious Recusant, who obstinately refuseth to be partaker, with the church of England in publique prayer & hearing the word of God preached, being for his disobedience and contempt excommunicated, and so dying excommunicate, to be buried in christian buriall, not hauing befoze his death sought to be absolved.

27 Item, whether any of the stocks appertaining to the church, be substracted by any person, and to what value, and by whom.

Generally, what faults soener you know to be within your parishes not specified or mentioned in these Articles, & punishable by the Ecclesiastical lawes, you shall by vertue of your oath aforesaide duely and truly present them to your Ordinary, that refozation may be had accordingly.

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These subscribed Articles, are specially enioyned and commanded by the said Reuerend father, to be from time to time obserued by the Minister and Churchwardens of euery church.

1 **T**hat hencefozth the Church-wardens shall not permit any Minister to serue the cure of their church vntill the minister doe first shew forth vnto the said churchwardens his licence thereto, vnder the hand and seale of the said Bishop of Winchester, or of his Chancelloz, vpon paine of contempt.

2 Item, that from hencefozth they doe not admit any minister to preach in their cures, but only such as already be, or hencefozth first shall be allowed thereto, vnder the hand or seale of the R. Archbishop of Canterburie his Grace, or of the said Bishop of Winchester.

3 Item, that a true copie of the names, daies, and month of the christning, marryng, and burial of all persons in euery parish yereley subscribed vnder the hands of the minister and churchwardens, testifying their collation and agrément of the said copie with the said parchment booke, shall be yereley exhibited into the Registry of the Bishoprick of Winchester, in the yereley visitations of the Bishop or his Chancelloz.

4 Item, that in this triennall visitatiō, the names of all lay men presuming, or which by any fauour are tollerated to read diuine seruice in any church, be diligently enquired & presented: & that hencefozth y churchwardens vpon paine of law, do not permit any lay man to read diuine seruice in the church, without y speciall licence of the bishop of Winchester or of his chancelloz vnder their hand & seale, of which licenses there shall remaine recozd in the registry of the said Bishop.

5 Item, that the churchwardens do vpon the saboth daies diligently obserue the careles & negligent commers to diuine seruice, & after admonition giuen by the minister and churchwardens, do at y least at euery visitation, present the names

of such negligent persons, & the seuerall days of their absence.

6 Item, that euery beneficed man, not being a preacher allowed by publique authoritie, and the farmers of beneficed men not being resident, shall euery Visitation deliuer to the Register a note in writing of all Sermons preached in their Cures from one Visitation to another, subscribed with the preachers hand, which notes the Register shall (after the visitation ended) certifie vnto the said reuerend father.

7 Item, if the Church-wardens & side-men at this visitation, or any other hencefoorth, shall wilfully or negligently omit to present any crime or offence worthy of presentment and reformation, whereof the Minister, then or after, may haue knowledge, that then the Minister shall giue aduertizement thereof to the said reuerend father or his Chancelloz.

FINIS.

God saue the King.

